



U.S. Department of Justice

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PRESS RELEASE

**TEN BOSTON AREA MEN CHARGED
WITH FEDERAL GUN OFFENSES AS PART OF THE
PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS INITIATIVE AND CEASEFIRE EFFORTS**

Boston, MA... Multiple indictments, brought pursuant to the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, were unsealed charging a total of ten Boston area men with various federal firearms offenses as a result of multiple investigations throughout the City. The Indictments resulted from federal, state and local authorities joint efforts to reduce violence in the Boston area by identifying felons in possession of firearms and ammunition, and those responsible for transferring, and providing guns to others in the Boston area and by prosecuting those individuals.

United States Attorney Michael J. Sullivan; Daniel F. Conley, Suffolk County District Attorney; Glenn N. Anderson, Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in New England and Kathleen O'Toole, Boston Police Commissioner, announced the indictment of ten individuals, with nine of the ten presently in state or federal custody.

In their on-going effort to reduce firearms-related violence in the City of Boston, Suffolk County District Attorney Conley and Boston Police Commissioner O'Toole, along with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, and the U.S. Attorney's Office, began a number of investigations with the goal of reducing firearms related activity and the number of guns available on the streets of Boston. As a result of this effort, a total of 10 guns and hundreds of rounds of ammunition have been removed from the streets.

The cases are being prosecuted as part of President Bush's Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative which makes prosecution of firearms cases a top priority. The Project Safe Neighborhood's Initiative provides a comprehensive, strategic approach to reducing gun violence in America. Since 2002, when the U.S. Attorney's Office implemented the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, eleven cities across the state, including Boston, have joined in the program.

U.S. Attorney Sullivan praised the joint effort, saying, “As these indictments reflect, the partnerships among local, state and federal law enforcement are in place, and hard at work. These federal indictments demonstrates how communities can benefit from multi-jurisdictional investigations and information sharing. This effort should send a clear message that we are working together as intensively as ever, and we are focused on firearms crimes and violence. I commend all of the investigators and prosecutors whose persistence and hard work resulted in the removal of 10 firearms and ammunition from the streets of Boston.”

District Attorney Daniel Conley said: "Coming on the heels of the revival of Operation Ceasefire this week, we are indeed sending a message to those who are illegally carrying guns in Suffolk County. State and federal prosecutors are meeting weekly and reviewing every gun case to determine which system, state or federal, can make the strongest case and put you behind bars for the greatest length of time. I thank U.S. Attorney Michael Sullivan and Boston Police Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole, who are as fine a pair of partners in public safety as one could ever ask for, and the prosecutors – state and federal – who work so closely and so well together to protect our citizens."

Commissioner Kathleen O'Toole said, “These federal indictments will send a strong and clear message that law enforcement agencies in Boston are working collaboratively and tirelessly to address the issues of gun violence in our neighborhoods.”

“Project Safe Neighborhoods is a strategy that targets gun crimes and utilizes all the tools available to law enforcement to reduce the level of violence in our cities”, stated Glenn N. Anderson, Special Agent In Charge of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF). “ATF agents, detectives and prosecutors work together to determine where to prosecute firearms related crimes. Today’s actions are an example of ATF and the US Attorney’s Office teaming with the Boston Police Department and the Suffolk County District Attorney’s Office to best serve the communities impacted by individuals who unlawfully possess firearms in the City of Boston.”

The defendants are charged as follows:

1. **FERDINANDO B. ROSCOE**, (“**ROSCOE**”), age 27, of 237 Geneva Avenue, Dorchester, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
2. **RASHEED MARSMAN** (“**MARSMAN**”), age 21, of 85 Milton Avenue, 2, Dorchester, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
3. **MICHAEL SOARES** (“**SOARES**”), age 25, 45 Centre Street, apartment 1E, Roxbury MA , BOSTON, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;

4. **RICARDO KNIGHT**, (“**KNIGHT**”) age 19, of 26 Waldren Street, #43, Roxbury, BOSTON, MA, is charged is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
5. **EDDIE GAUTIER** (“**GAUTIER**”), age 24, of Boston, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
6. **JORGE AFONSO** (“**AFONSO**”), age 21, of 48 Reed Street, #1, Randolph MA, BOSTON, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
7. **UYLESEE LANDRUM** (“**LANDRUM**”), age, 19, of 79 Fayston Street, apartment #1, Roxbury, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
8. **DEREK GRAHAM** (“**GRAHAM**”), age 20, of 18 Harvard Street, apartment #3, Dorchester, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm and ammunition;
9. **ROBERT L. WEBSTER**, (“**WEBSTER**”), age 25, of 3 Everton Street, Dorchester, MA, is charged in an Indictment with transporting into a persons’ state of residence a firearm purchased outside of that state;
10. **LAMAR THOMAS**, (“**THOMAS**”), age 24, of 38 Austen Way, apartment 12 B, Marlboro, MA, is charged in an Indictment with being a felon-in-possession of a firearm.

The federal felon in possession statute prohibits any person who is convicted of a felony from possessing a firearm or ammunition. The federal unlawful transportation of a firearm statute prohibits the unlicensed transportation into Massachusetts of guns purchased outside of Massachusetts.

The defendants who are presently in state custody, will be transferred into federal court at a later date.

Upon conviction, the felon-in-possession charges carry a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison. Upon conviction, the unlawful transport of a firearm into one’s state of residence carries a maximum penalty of 5 years in prison.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Boston Police Department. The U.S. Attorney would like to thank Suffolk County District Attorney Daniel Conley’s Office for their assistance in the investigations. The cases are being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorneys John Wortmann, Glenn MacKinlay and Thomas Kanwit in Sullivan’s Criminal Division.

The details contained in the Indictments are allegations. The defendants are presumed to be innocent unless and until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law.

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